

Amendments to the Specification

Please delete the abstract and replace it as follows:

~~A The invention provides a method and system for responding to a request from a~~
~~capable of ensuring that each client for a web page can consistently communicate with~~
~~one or more servers using delta caching is described.~~ Building templates for the web
page objects at the server(s) is functionally separated and logically remote from the
request server from encoding objects for delivery to clients. One or more template-
builders are logically separated from one or more delta-encoders. Each operates
independently to perform its part of delta caching; template-builders build templates for
the web page, while delta-encoders use those templates and a received web object to
compute delta information for the web page encode objects for delta caching.
Template-builders can also operate so that those clients not configured for explicit delta
caching can perform implicit ("clientless") delta caching by reference to templates
maintained at one or more template-builders. Delta-encoders, like template-builders,
are logically remote from the request server. The delta information for the web page
and a reference to can also operate so that the template information and the delta
information for any object can be separately compressed or sent to the client[s]. Delta-
encoders can operate with template-builders using a client-server technique.